

hunting or driving any motorized vehicle.

Any activities outside of daylight hours (except permitted hunters under refuge hunt rules).

Target shooting.

Using areas designated “Area Closed”.

Camping, building fires or overnight anchoring.

Blocking gates or roadways with vehicles.

Cutting firewood or trimming vegetation, and possession of saws, saw blades, and/or machetes.

Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads and pottery shards.

Unrestrained pets

Parking, walking or hunting within 100 feet of any active oil well site, production facility or equipment.

Fishing with jug, trot, bush or similar lines, nets or traps

Commercial fishing or crabbing.

Firearms on the Refuge, except by permitted hunters during applicable gun hunt seasons.

Baiting wildlife, or hunting over bait.

Killing of feral and other animals without refuge permit.

Climbing trees by driving nails, spikes, or other objects; using a tree that has existing nails, spikes or permanent steps; or using climbing spikes.

Hunting in and/or shooting into or across any open field, roadway or canal during hunting seasons.

Possession or use of lead shot or buckshot.

Marking with flagging, paper, paint, trash, etc...

Spot-lighting wildlife or using man-drives for wildlife

Unregulated trapping

Use Seasons Activity	Season Dates	Area Restrictions	Refuge Permit Requirements
Wildlife Observation	Year Round	Open in all areas not restricted by gates or designated as “Area Closed”	Public Use Permit
Bank Fishing	Year Round	Open in all areas not restricted by gates or designated as “Area Closed”	Public Use Permit
Recreational Boating/Fishing	Year Round	Open in all areas not restricted by gates or designated as “Area Closed”	Public Use Permit
Hunting	October - January	Permit specific restrictions. See Hunting Regulations table for specific seasons and hunt areas.	Public Use Permit, Season Hunt Permit (by lottery), daily Check Card, and Hunter Education Certification

Bayou Teche
National Wildlife Refuge
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Franklin, Louisiana 70538
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Bayou Teche

National Wildlife Refuge Public Use, Hunting and Fishing Regulations



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This is an annual permit. In order to conserve tax dollars, please keep this permit throughout the year.

Bayou Teche Refuge Public Use Permit
October 2002-October 2003

When signed and in your possession, this serves as your permit for public use on the refuge. It acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

signature (permits are non-transferable)

Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge - Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge, established in 2001, is located in St. Mary Parish in southeast Louisiana. The 9,028 acre refuge is composed of wet bottomland hardwood laced with bayous and canals. The primary mission of the refuge is to preserve and manage habitat for the threatened Louisiana black bear. Other objectives are to provide habitat for other fish and wildlife species, environmental education, and opportunities for public recreation. The refuge provides important habitat for the Louisiana black bear, a federally threatened subspecies of the American black bear. It also provides excellent habitat for wading birds, neotropical songbirds, waterfowl, and reptiles and amphibians. The refuge is open year round to the public from sunrise to sunset, with seasonal restrictions in some areas. The refuge can be accessed by vehicle, foot, or boat. Wildlife observation, boating and fishing are allowed on the refuge year round except in areas closed to public access. Hunting is permitted on the refuge in specific areas and under date, time, and lottery restrictions. All open hunting seasons are listed in this brochure.

General Regulations - Hunting, fishing and public use regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of The Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State of Louisiana regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

Permits - All Refuge users, are required to possess a signed Public Use permit while on the Refuge. Public Use permits are free and are found on the front of this brochure. A signed permit acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. All visitors, including hunters, fishermen, boaters, bird watchers, etc., are required to abide by all terms and conditions in this document, as well as all other applicable State of Louisiana and Federal regulations. Brochures may be obtained by mail, at the refuge headquarters, or from the Refuge website.

All Hunters are also required to have a Refuge Hunt Season Permit. They are also required to use the Daily Check Cards to check in and out of the Refuge on each day that they hunt. Hunt Season permits are available by lottery drawing. Daily Check Cards are available on the Refuge at Unit and Headquarters check stations. Applications for Hunt Season permits will be accepted through September 25.

Access-The Refuge is accessible by car, truck, foot, ATV, or boat, dependent on the area to be accessed and the time of year. The Alice-C road enters the Garden City unit of the Refuge and provides access by car. Marked un-improved roads crossing farm fields can be used to

access the Centerville, Garden City, North Bend-East and North Bend-West units of the Refuge. These are low-grade roads and can be traveled by vehicles only during dry seasons. They are not recommended for driving during wet seasons; travel by ATV or foot is recommended on these roads during those times. Take note of Refuge signs on roads, trails and waterways indicating vehicle type restrictions. Motorized vehicles are only allowed on specifically signed access roads; they are not allowed on trails maintained for public access by foot. Boats can be used on open waterways (canals and bayous) on the Refuge; boats with motors are not allowed on interior waterways designated for non-motorized boats only.

Physically Challenged or Disabled Users - Physically challenged or disabled public users are encouraged to consult refuge staff for available options and alternatives that may make their visit more enjoyable.

Fishing - State of Louisiana creel limits apply. Recreational fishing is permitted during daylight hours only (sunrise to sunset) and lines must be attended at all times. Commercial fishing is not allowed. The use of nets, traps, or unattended lines (trot, jug, bush, etc) is not allowed. Fishing is allowed from shore and from boats in open waterways. Fishermen are required to possess a signed Public Use Permit.

Boating - Recreational boating is allowed in open waterways (canals and bayous). All State of Louisiana boating regulations apply including, but not limited to, running lights, registration, and personal floatation devices. Boating regulations are strictly enforced. Boaters are required to possess a signed Public Use Permit. Airboat use is not permitted on the refuge.

Hunting - In addition to the **Public Use Permit** required for all Refuge users, all hunters must possess a **Refuge Season Permit**. Season permits are granted annually by lottery drawing. Hunters must submit an application for the drawing indicating each hunt season they want to participate in. Applications for Hunt Season permits can be found in this brochure and will be accepted through September 25. Applicants will be selected by random computer drawing. All hunters, regardless of age, will be required to submit proof of completion of hunter education (**International Bowhunter Education** for bow hunters, and **State Hunter Education** for gun hunters) to be included in the lottery drawing; hunter education will be waived, as necessary, for the 2002/2003 hunting seasons only, allowing hunters extra time to complete this requirement. All permitted hunters must also use **Daily Check Cards** at refuge check stations to check in and out of the refuge each day that they hunt. Failure to follow Refuge rules and regulations, or disregard or abuse of neighboring private lands, may result in revocation of hunting permits and/or exclusion from future hunts.

Permits are non-transferable and must be in the hunter's possession at all times while on the refuge during the permitted hunt.

Hunters are authorized to take only species listed on the season permit. Harming or needlessly disturbing plants or other wildlife is a violation of refuge regulations.

Each youth of age 17 years or younger must be supervised by an adult of age 21 years or older. Both youth hunters and adult supervisors must have proof of completion of a State Hunter Education Course; this requirement will not be waived for the 2002/2003 seasons.

Hunters may enter the hunting area no earlier than 2 hours before sunrise and may remain no later than one hour after sunset.

Possession of lead shot is prohibited on the Refuge; approved non-toxic shot must be used in shotguns. Possession of buckshot is prohibited.

Firearms carried in vehicles or boats must be unloaded and encased or dismantled. Loaded is defined as shells in gun or cap on a muzzleloader. Archery tackle must be uncocked with arrow un-nocked from string.

Baiting wildlife, hunting over bait, feeding wildlife, spot-lighting wildlife and man-drives for wildlife are prohibited.

Only portable stands or blinds may be used, and must be dismantled or removed after each days use. A stand or blind left on the refuge overnight may be used by any hunter on a first-come, first-serve basis. Hunting from old stands or blinds erected in past years, or using old structures or camps is strictly prohibited; old structures and stands are unsafe for any use. Live vegetation can not be cut or moved to create blinds.

The only dogs allowed for hunting are recognized retriever breeds for use in waterfowl hunting. All dogs must be collared with owners name and phone number. Dogs used for chase are not allowed on the refuge.

Archery Deer Season - Archery Deer Season Permits are required and are issued by lottery. All archery hunters must use refuge check cards to check in and out at designated check stations daily. See the 'Hunting Regulations' table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc. Bowhunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the International Bowhunters Education Program, however this requirement will be waived, as necessary, for the 2002/2003 season.

Bows are permitted only during the Refuge archery season. State of Louisiana regulations governing drug tipped arrows, pods, broadhead size, etc., are applicable. Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

regulations governing crossbow use will apply to refuge hunters. No firearms are allowed on the archery hunt.

Gun Deer Season - General and Youth - Gun Deer Season Permits are required and are issued by lottery. All hunters must use refuge check cards to check in and out at designated check stations daily. See the 'Hunting Regulations' table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc. All gun hunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the State Hunter Education Program, however this requirement will be waived, as necessary, for the 2002/2003 season.

Hunter orange (400 square inches of unbroken hunter orange and a hunter orange cap) must be worn by hunters during these gun deer seasons.

During the Youth Gun Deer Hunt, the youth permit holder (age 17 or younger) must be accompanied (in sight and in normal voice contact) by a non-hunting licensed adult hunter (age 21 or older) and only the youth is permitted to carry a firearm. Youth hunters and adult supervisors must possess proof of completion of a State Hunter Education course; this requirement will **not** be waived for the 2002/2003 season.

Small Game Season (squirrel and rabbit) - Small Game Season Permits are required and are issued by lottery. All hunters must use refuge check cards to check in and out at designated check stations daily. See the 'Hunting Regulations' table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc. All gun hunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the State Hunter Education Program, however this requirement will be waived, as necessary, for the 2002/2003 season.

Waterfowl Season - Waterfowl Season Permits are required and are issued by lottery. All hunters must use refuge check cards to check in and out at designated check stations daily. This waterfowl season allows all species of take included in the Louisiana State Waterfowl season and are the same as those described by state waterfowl regulations. See the 'Hunting Regulations' table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc. All gun hunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the State Hunter Education Program, however this requirement will be waived, as necessary, for the 2002/2003 season. Only recognized retriever breeds for waterfowl hunting are allowed. Live vegetation can not be cut and used for blinds.

Prohibited Activities
Littering

Feeding bears, alligators, or any wildlife

Taking, collecting or disturbing any plant or wildlife other than those specified by refuge rules.

The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while